

REMARKS

In this Office Action, Claims 1-14 are examined and rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Oliver Jr. (US 4,814,869, hereinafter "Oliver").

The Examiner is appreciated for his thoughtful review and comments. After reviewing the comments by the Examiner, the Applicants respectfully conclude that some distinctive features recited in the claims may have been overlooked. Reconsideration of Claims 1-14 is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Patentability of Claim 1

It is axiomatic that an invention in a patent application is defined by, and must be examined with respect to, the specific language in the claims. Distinct features in Claim 1 are set forth below:

- a number of channel interface units respectively coupled to a plurality of field terminals for receiving video, audio and alarm data in a surveillance site and transmitting the video and audio data and control information from a plurality of view stations to said field terminals respectively, wherein the field terminals generate video signals that are respectively digitalized, encoded and compressed to form the video and audio data, and wherein each of said channel interface units comprises:
 - a) a number of channel transceiver chips to communicate with said field terminals, connected to a logic control module through a data line and a clock line, for transmitting/receiving signals from a channel;
 - b) a logic control module including a number of programmable devices, a single chip processor and a memory for receiving data from said channel transceiver chips through the data line and the clock line and transmitting data to said channel transceiver chips, moreover, for receiving the data from the bus control module through the data line and the address line and transmitting the data to the bus control module, wherein said memory is connected to said programmable devices for buffering the data received from said channel transceiver and the data received from said bus control module; and
 - c) a bus control module with one end connected to said logic control module and another end connected to a computer bus;
- an information process kernel including a processor and a software module and connected to said channel interface unit by said computer

bus; and
a number of view station interface units respectively coupled to said information process kernel by said computer bus to receive the video and audio data, wherein the video and audio data are decompressed, decoded and subsequently displayed on view stations.

(emphasis added)

Claim 1 clearly shows that the system as claimed works for digital signals and recites explicitly that each of the channel interface units receives alarm data in addition to video and audio signals (see "for receiving video, audio and alarm data in a surveillance site" in claim 1). Further, it is clearly indicated that the field terminals generate video signals that are respectively digitalized, encoded and compressed to form the video.

In contrast, Oliver shows a technique for transmitting a plurality of modulated analog video signals multiplexed onto a single path capable of carrying, for example, up to 36 video channels. In particular, Oliver shows in FIG. 1A that video signals from the cameras 1 are respectively modulated and then combined in combiners 3 in channels. In lines 14-31 of Col. 2 in conjunction with FIG. 1B, Oliver clearly describes that the alarm signal is directly received in a switching matrix 14 that works in conjunction with a computer 10 to control which channel is to be displayed on a display and a VCR.

The Applicant respectfully points out that the video signals in Oliver are not processed in a computer, the video signals are respectively modulated into channels that are controlled by the computer to be displayed on a selected display. In other words, *the computer is never used to process any of the video signals and neither to display any of the video signals.*

From an architecture perspective, there are at least two major differences between Oliver and the pending claims. First, Oliver shows the use of analog video signals that are modulated into channels for transmission. Oliver neither teaches nor suggests that video signals (data) are digital and transmitted over a data network in compressed and encoded mode. Claim 1 explicitly recites that the video signal generated at a field terminal is digitized, encoded and compressed, which could not

be in any way interpreted to cover modulation of analog video in Oliver. Secondly, Oliver shows that the alarm signal is received separately from the video signal (technically, it is believed that it has to be such because an alarm signal is generally not modulated into the video signal to avoid the complexity of a demodulation process). In contrast, Claim 1 recites "a number of channel interface units respectively coupled to a plurality of field terminals for receiving video, audio and alarm data in a surveillance site". Because the video and audio signals are digital in the current application, the alarm data is also digital and thus can be readily transmitted in the same medium with the video and audio data. In any case, Oliver has taught away from the feature by showing a switching matrix receiving an alarm signal to determine in conjunction with a computer a channel to display a selected video.

Besides these two major differences, the additional details recited in Claim 1 are evidently neither taught nor suggested in Oliver. In the Office Action, the Examiner has assumed that the features:

- a) a number of channel transceiver chips to communicate with said field terminals, connected to a logic control module through a data line and a clock line, for transmitting/receiving signals from a channel;
- b) a logic control module including a number of programmable devices, a single chip processor and a memory for receiving data from said channel transceiver chips through the data line and the clock line and transmitting data to said channel transceiver chips, moreover, for receiving the data from the bus control module through the data line and the address line and transmitting the data to the bus control module, wherein said memory is connected to said programmable devices for buffering the data received from said channel transceiver and the data received from said bus control module; and
- c) a bus control module with one end connected to said logic control module and another end connected to a computer bus;

recited in Claim 1 are inherently in Oliver's system. The Applicants respectfully disagree. These features, together with the description in the Specification of the pending application, can be understood to those skilled in the art that they operate only with data, not analog video signals. Since Oliver's system pertains to transmission of analog video signals in channels, and the only digital equipment,

the personal computer 10, is used to control the display of a channel, these features a), b) and c) could not be in Oliver's system. If the Examiner still thinks that way, the Applicant respectfully challenges the Examiner to list corresponding parts in Oliver with reference to the individual components recited in a), b) and c). Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that these features are neither taught nor suggested in Oliver, and Claim 1 shall be allowable over Oliver. Reconsideration of claims 1-4 is respectfully requested.

Claim 5 recites similar features of Claim 1. As reasoned above for Claim 1, Oliver does not teach or suggest that the video data is transported over a data network, as Oliver clearly shows that a plurality of modulated analog video signals multiplexed onto a single path capable of carrying for example up to 36 video channels. Further, the data being transported as recited in Claim 5 include audio and alarm information generated from the field terminal. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that Oliver neither teaches nor suggests the combined features recited in Claim 5, and Claim 5 shall be allowable over Oliver. Reconsideration of claims 5-14 is respectfully requested.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicants believe that Claims 1-14 shall be in condition for allowance over the cited references. Early and favorable action is being respectfully solicited.

If there are any issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through either a Supplementary Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (408)777-8873.


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[Faxed to (703)872-9306]

Name: Joe Zheng

Signature: Joe Zheng

Respectfully submitted;


Joe Zheng
Reg. No.: 39,345